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MINISTRY OF AUTOMOBILE TRANSPORT REPORTS SUCCESSSES

The Grozny Automobile Administration has successfully utilized liquefied gases as fuel for automobiles. In 1948, all its trucks were converted to use this type of fuel and a gas-producing plant was built.

Productivity per unit of plant equipment in the auto repair plants of the "Rosavtoremont" Trust in 1948 was 80 percent above 1947.

In 1948, the truck drivers of the Kharkov Oblast "Soyuzzagottrans" Trust transported 5 million pud of grain and sugar beets above plan. One hundred and forty-seven drivers undertook to run their vehicles 100,000 kilometers without subjecting them to major repairs; 37 of these have already carried out their pledge. Because of economies effected in the use of fuel and tires, this trust was able in 1948 to turn over to the state 351,600 rubles in above-plan accumulations. During this year, the "hundred-thousand drivers" constituted 14 percent of the trust's entire driving personnel.

On 24 April, trial runs were given six new Moskvich automobiles covering a total distance of 6,850 kilometers over the following route: Moscow - Khar'kov - Staling - Rostov on the Don - Dzauzhikau - Makhach-Kala - Baku - Tbilisi - Kutaisi - Sochi - Novorossiysk - Kerch - Simferopol - Dnepropetrovsk - Moscow. Three were standard (serial) type; one was of the hooded van type; and the third, an improved model with a 26 - instead of a 23-horsepower motor, a noiseless transmission, and the gear-shift lever on the steering-wheel shaft. The route covered included difficulties of every kind, but 5 days later, at the finish, all the cars returned in perfect condition.

In 1948, 444 Pobeda-type light taxis and 30 ZIS-10 taxis were put into operation in Moscow. This year, 1,200 more Pobeda and 50 ZIS-110 automobiles were released for taxi transport.

In Kirghizia, two drivers operating a GAZ-03-30 bus, with 6.50 x 20 tires, covered 57,300 kilometers instead of the 21,000 required, whereby they saved 2,592 rubles. Two other drivers, using the same type tires, covered 33,000 kilometers, saving 2,300 rubles. Good results were also obtained from the ZIS-5 automobile with 7 x 30 tires, whose driver covered 39,300 kilometers instead of the required 30,000 kilometers. All the runs took place on high, mountainous terrain.

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